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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Muñiz et al.

Serial No.: 10/018,738

Filing Date: December 17, 2001

Title: COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR DETECTING AND EARLY  
DIFFERENTIATED COUNTING OF GRAM-NEGATIVE MICROORGANISMS

Art Unit: 1651

Examiner: V. Afremova

Attorney Docket No.: LEXSA P-25

Via Facsimile Telephone: (703) 872-9306Commissioner for Patents  
Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## ELECTION IN RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

This is an Election for the above-identified application in response to the  
Restriction Requirement mailed on May 17, 2003. The response date was set for  
Saturday, June 17, 2003, which allows for a reply deposited on Monday, June 19, 2003.

Applicants hereby elect **Group I** (claims 1-18) for further prosecution. Please  
cancel claims 19 and 20.

Date: May 19, 2003Respectfully submitted  
LACKENBACH SIEGEL LLPThomas Blankinship  
Reg. No. 39,909

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**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

Date: May 19, 2003

**OFFICIAL**To: Examiner V. Afremova  
ART UNIT 1651

Facsimile No.: (703) 872-9306

From: Thomas Blankinship

Pages (including cover sheet): 2

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/018,738 for  
**COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR DETECTING AND EARLY  
DIFFERENTIATED COUNTING OF GRAM-NEGATIVE  
MICROORGANISMS**

Atty. Ref.: LEXSA P-25

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the attention of  
Examiner V. Afremova of Art Unit 1651 at Technology Center 1600 Before Final Official  
Facsimile Number (703) 872-9306 on May 19, 2003 in accordance with 37 CFR 1.6(d).

May 19, 2003  
Date

  
Thomas Blankinship

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